

Subject **Trash/recycling in Round Valley**
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There is no recycling buy back in Round Valley and the transfer station doesn't accept miscellaneous metal or household appliances. I have been talking this up at the RVAMAC meetings, at the most recent Round Valley County Water District meeting, and have had one productive and informative conversation with Michelle Merrifield. Michelle may take this issue up with the RVIT Council in the near future.

Here's the brief, one page overview which I hope to have adopted in some form by all of the above groups and forwarded to our government representatives in Sacramento and Washington, DC for consideration and perhaps some financial assistance. Presently there just isn't enough money for C&S Waste Solutions to provide the service we need and consequently the place has more and more trash everywhere.

My question to you: a few years ago we benefited from a period of some free dump days at the transfer station. What did this cost and how was it financed? Thanks John for all that you have done the last seven years. One more to go...

TRASH

FINDINGS-

The amounts of household garbage, random trash, recyclables, household appliances and abandoned vehicles in the Round Valley Area has increased in the last decade to an unacceptable level.

There's garbage and debris on the side of the roads, down the hill from the turnouts on the state highway, in the creeks and stacking up in people's yards.

- 1) No recyclables buy back method is available here. The deposit a person pays on an aluminum container can not be redeemed without driving almost fifty miles one way. The official local transfer station will accept recyclables for free, but no longer pays for aluminum cans.
- 2) Disposal fees for household garbage are continuing to be more and more expensive and a lot of people here just don't have the money to properly dispose of their household garbage.
- 3) Appliances, such as washing machines, kitchen stoves and water heaters all wear out eventually and the official county transfer station does not accept any of these types of items. A person has to deliver the broken appliances to the transfer station in Willits to dispose of something like this. Again, the almost fifty mile one way trip assuming one has a vehicle which can transport a household appliance.
- 4) Metal items such as old fencing, corrugated roofing, pipe, vehicle parts, sheet metal, all types of metal is not accepted at the local transfer station. "NO METAL" As a consequence these items get dumped in the creek beds and off the side of the road instead of driven the fifty miles to Willits.
- 5) Perhaps the greatest resource of Round Valley is the outstanding natural beauty. The increasing level of garbage scattered about and the development of random dump sites is a trend which is not acceptable. Garbage and discarded appliances in the creeks is particularly offensive.

GOALS and PROPOSED ACTIONS

- 1) Establish a recyclable buyback program and location, preferably at the county transfer station.
- 2) Limit the frequency of large household appliances and other metal items dumped in the creek beds and adjacent off road areas. Establish a program to accept these types of items at the county transfer

station for a minimal fee, or completely free.

3) Seek awareness from the state and federal government of our trash problem. Contact State Assembly member Chris Rogers, State Senator Mike McGuire and Congressman Jared Huffman. Encourage legislation for specific funding allocations or secure the resources from existing funded programs to address the need for more effective trash disposal and recycling in Round Valley.